# **Railway Land Wildlife Trust**

## April 2017 AGM Edition No. 92

www.railwaylandproject.org Registered Charity No. 800655



# **Members**

are cordially invited to join the trustees - old and new, with Helen Meade, Programme Coordinator, for a discussion on

## 'What We Do' and 'The Way Forward'

## at 8pm following the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING RAILWAY LAND WILDLIFE TRUST FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2017 at 7.30pm

## drinks and light refreshments

## **Other Dates for your Diaries:**

**Sunday 23rd April: 'What's a Green Funeral?'** At 3pm a talk, plus tea and cake! Belinda Chapman on the ecological aspects of funerals -

# From the 7th May onward, the Linklater will be open to all, from 2-5pm, including festival based activities.

**Saturday 6th May** Dawn Chorus Walk 4.30am - Please book your place by emailing Thyone Outram , LDC Community Ranger on: <u>Thyone.Outram@lewes.gov.uk.</u> The walk will conclude with a continentalstyle breakfast at the Linklater. *Donations towards RLWT funds appreciated.* 

**Sunday 7th May** First Sunday afternoon opening 2-5pm: Learn how to use willow and tissue to make festival decorations

**Sunday 14th May** 'Bee Sunday' 2-5pm: Talks and activities about bees and how to support them - something for all ages!

**Sunday 21st May Sunday afternoon opening 2-5pm:** Bird walk with Paul Harley, all ages welcome. plus Steve Homewood's photographic exhibition in the Mettyear Room

**Sunday 28th May 'Vert Woods - past, present and future'** Stewart Boyle's illustrated talk about establishing Laughton's Community Benefit Woodland at 3pm

Sunday 4th Sunday afternoon opening 2-5pm: Making sock puppet lemurs with Wishworks 2-5pm, in preparation for the summer festival. All welcome, £3 suggested donation to cover materials.

Sunday 11th Sunday afternoon opening 2-5pm: wild flower walk

# Sunday 18th June RLWT Festival: 'Balancing Act'

A family friendly festival celebrating the Railway Land, our partnership project in Madagascar and the vibrant environmental movement in Lewes.

Weekend 24th / 25th June Lewes Poetry Weekend : for details see http://www.sdpf.org.uk



## NOTICE of the Annual General Meeting Railway Land Wildlife Trust Linklater Pavilion - Friday 12th May 2017- 7.30pm

## AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence
- 2. Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 20th May 2016
- 3. Matters Arising
- 4. Annual Report and Accounts year ending 31 October 2016
- 5. Election of Members of the Management Committee.

Under our Articles of Association half the Members are required to retire each year and any Members joining since the last AGM are also obliged to retire. All are able to offer them-selves for re-election.

Retiring this year and offering themselves for re-election are Pat Rigg and Sam Smith. Jim Hillage, Simon Cooper and Mark Sawtell who were appointed after the last AGM are standing for election by the membership.

- 6. Appointment of Independent Examiner
- 7. Any Other Business

Please bring this publication to the meeting as it includes the Minutes of the last AGM, the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 October 2016

# Membership: For information about our new membership scheme, a subscription form and direct debit mandate - download the attachment or see back pages

## Minutes of the Railway Land Wildlife Trust Ltd - Annual General Meeting Held in the Linklater Pavilion. Friday 20th May 2016 at 7.30pm

**Apologies**: Dee O'Connell, Dan Fagan, Tom and Susan Crossett, Caroline Kenward, Jean Heywood, Sam Smith, Martin Fox, Rosie Davies, Jean Gould, Richard Cave, Chris Burgess.

## Review of previous AGM minutes

Matters arising: none

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

## **Annual Report**

Pat Rigg explained the format of the report and the time period it covers. She drew attention to the number and variety of events held and thanked John Parry and all those involved.

She pointed out that, whilst we are always looking to increase our contact with the public, this has actually been very strong in the last year, for example through the Sunday afternoon openings.

The annual report was accepted

## Accounts

Paul Biggs from Maxwell Gumbleton and Co had prepared the accounts using figures provided. The format was as before. Pat Rigg invited questions and / or comments. It was noted that the rental income had decreased. PR explained that this was due to no longer renting out the small office in the building and that, while Trustees are aware of the drop in income, they are not currently concerned about it. The accounts were accepted.

#### **Election of Management Committee**

New Trustee:

Belinda Chapman was proposed by Jane McIntosh and seconded by Peter Mettyear and was voted in. Trustees retiring on rotation and standing for re-election:

Jenifer Barton and Martin Fox were proposed by Jan Osbourne and seconded by Carole Archer and were voted in.

#### Appointment of Independent Examiners:

Pat Rigg recommended Maxwell Gumbleton remain as the Independent Examiners.

This was proposed by Jenifer Barton and seconded by Liz Penrose, and this was voted in.

AOB; None, The meeting closed at 7.50pm Minutes taken by Helen Meade



### THE RAILWAY LAND WILDLIFE TRUST LTD Registered number 02313579 Charity Number: 800655

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT For the year ended 31st October 2016

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st October 2016. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2005 in preparing the annual report and financial statements for the charity.

#### **Directors and Trustees**

The Directors of the charitable company (the Charity) are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as Trustees.

The elected Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:-

Jenifer Barton Roger Beasley Belinda Chapman Martin Fox Liz Penrose Patricia Rigg Sam Smith

#### Independent Examiners

Maxwell-Gumbleton and Co 1 West Street Lewes East Sussex BN7 2NZ

**Registered Address** 

Linklater Pavilion Railway Lane Lewes East Sussex BN7 2FG



#### **Structure Governance and Management Governing Document**

The Railway Land Wildlife Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association dated 19 April 2013.

#### **Recruitment and appointment of Trustees**

In accordance with the Articles of Association Trustees are elected by the Membership. Half of the Trustees are required to retire annually by rotation and may offer themselves for re-election. Any Trustees co-opted by the Trustee Board during the year are required to stand for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). When considering co-opting, the Trustee Board has regard to the requirements for any specialist skills needed. 3

### Organisation

The Railway Land Wildlife Trust is governed by a Trustee Board which is responsible for setting policies and ensuring legality and good practice in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Trust, Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

#### **Risk Management**

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to manage risk and have a risk strategy in place which comprises

The maintenance of a risk register

An annual review of the risks the charity may face

The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate against those risks identified in each review The implementation of procedures designed to prevent any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

#### **Objectives and Activities and Performance**

The objects of the Trust are:-

To record, study, conserve, improve and create for the benefit of the public places of natural scientific interest and in particular of arboricultural, botanical, entomological, geological, ornithological, archaeological and zoological interest and to protect the flora and fauna of such places within the framework of sustainability; To promote, organise, conduct and encourage study and research for the increase of knowledge in the natural sciences and sustainability and to publish the useful results of such study and research;

To advance the education of the public in:-

Sustainability in the natural sciences and in particular in arboriculture, botany, entomology, geology, ornithology and zoology; and

the employment of the natural sustainable resources of land in craftwork;

To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the benefit of the public at large.

#### Staffing

inclusion.

Helen Meade appointed Volunteer coordinator on a 3 day contract. Following the Director's stepping down in September 2016 this post was restructured and altered to Programme Coordinator, 4 days a week. The delivery of sessions with learning disabled adults was delivered by freelance staff after the stepping down of Dr John Parry in September 2016. The trustees place on record their grateful thanks to Dr Parry who was a founder trustee and inspired and led the Trust in a voluntary capacity for 22 years before assuming the role of Director of the Railway Land Project in 2010

#### Activities in 2015/16

44 events devoted to schools or environmental teacher training workshops 72 regular evening and Saturday workshop activities of the community choir and the print making group and 61 local environmental group meetings totalling 129 hours. a Buddhist group 6 local authority workshops / consultations or meetings 3 commercial lettings 3 exhibitions during Artwave, by NC4All and photos by David Stacey of 'Users of the Railway Land and Linklater'; also exhibitions by NC4All at Birling Gap and Sheffield Park Free events were held throughout the year including 24 Sunday afternoon openings from May – September run by volunteers which drew in a counted 672 visitors with a further estimated 1000 attending our July fes-Fossil Festival in September - a two day free event with pop up theatre performances tival 'A Place to Think With' The activities on the Local Nature Reserve (owned and managed by Lewes District Council) and in the Linklater (owned and managed by the Railway Land Wildlife Trust) are based on a collaboration between both parties with a particular focus around the objectives of the Trust and around social



#### **Priory School**

Our work with Priory School continues to thrive. The Director and a trustee met the senior management team every term until September 2016, since then meetings have been with Jenifer Barton, Helen Meade and relevant freelance staff. Recent developments have been assisting a weekly 'forest school' and expanding our work with feeder Primary schools.

#### **Social Inclusion**

The Trust's ground-breaking approach to adult social care through the Nature Corridors group of adults with learning disabilities and their work related to the environment, was dealt a serious blow by the withdrawal of all funding from May 2016. Despite this we were determined to complete our commitments to the group. Trustees authorised the funding of a continuation of the work two days a week with Dr John Parry until August. This enabled the group to hold a month long exhibition at Birling Gap called 'C Change' and an exhibition linked with their work at Sheffield Park commemorating Capability Brown. Trustees also approved the subsequent funding of a one day a week project called Nature Rangers led by Paul Webster (until April 2017).

Social Media The Facebook account of the Nature Corridors group was effectvely used until September 2016 and the Railway Land Project account continues to thrive. We also have a u-tube account, and are on twitter @RailwayLand Our new website went live in May 2016 - www.railwaylandproject.org

The Linklater R.A.T.S The Linklater R.A.T.S stands for Raising Awareness of Tides and Sea levels and the second group of teenagers from Priory School and Ringmer Community College are making great progress, and continue to be led by Dr John Parry in a volunteer capacity

Sea level rise hub

The Linklater continues to be one of two starting points on the first climate change trail in the country and we display 8 large sea level rise adaption boards in the summer Sunday openings.

#### **Railway Land Live!**

Our major Heritage Lottery Fund award was in its second year with 13 primary schools taking part. This education programme introduced a new generation of young learners to the reserve where they engaged in range of planned activities designed to develop their awareness and understanding of the importance of



wetlands and the issues associated with climate change and sea level rise. Over 700 pupils from 26 East Sussex and Brighton & Hove schools participated in the 2015 and 2016 on-site education programme. A programme that totalled over 260 hours of class and group based learning delivered by The Director, an Environmental Educator and RLWT volunteers. 93% of pupils surveyed responded that they had undertaken follow-up activities after their

visit to the reserve that focused on the importance of wetlands habitats. For many this involved, designing a new school pond or updating their present pond maintenance programme.

School staff surveyed spoke very highly of the educational programme and how the days had highlighted how schools could use their outdoor spaces to support learning all year round. Several also commented on how well their pupils had used the digital equipment (microscope, sensors) to accurately record and gather data and of their need to develop aspects of this work in school.



Through all these activities the Trustees are confident that they have fulfilled the charity's aims regarding public education and are providing an inclusive and much needed resource for the public benefit of the people of Lewes and the Ouse valley.

# Our strategy regarding public benefit

We are operating a multi-level social enterprise in which we encourage opportunities for public benefit to appear and emerge in different and unexpected ways. However, this year's particular focus has been on developing our schools work by building on the Heritage Lottery funded project and ensuring that our work with the Nature Corridors came to an appropriate conclusion despite the loss of funding. Nature Rangers may well evolve into a different type of provision as we search for partnerships with other organisations.

The Trust moves into 2016/17 in an uncertain climate. Staff

have worked hard at building up our financial resources by beginning to look at other income streams, so we are in a reasonable position to withstand adverse financial conditions. We have reserves covering 6-9 months running costs, a fund for essential building maintenance, a ring-fenced legacy donation and a reasonable level of unrestricted funds.

### Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees (who are also directors of The Railway Land Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) submit the Trustees' Report and the independently examined financial statements for the year ending 31st October 2015 in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (2005);

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

Statement whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

there is no relevant accounting information of which the charitable company's accountant is unaware; and the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the accountant is aware of that information.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others - None

#### Independent Examiners

A resolution proposing that Maxwell-Gumbleton & Co be re-appointed Independent Examiners of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

This report was approved by the Trustee Board on 11th April 2017

Jim Hillage Acting Chairman

Registered Charity No 800655 Company Limited by Guarantee Reg No 2313579 Company Address: Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes, BN7 2FG

#### RAILWAY LAND WILDLIFE TRUST (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st October 2016

	Note	2016 Unrestricted £	2016 Restricted £	2016 Total £	2015 Total £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Voluntary income	2	27,889		27,889	4,910
Activities for generating funds	2	2,421		2,421	1,872
Income from investments	2	5		5	4
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2	9,261	44,542	53,803	90,233
Other income resources	2	2,474		2,474	2,175
Total incoming resources		42,050	44,542	86,592	99,194
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating voluntary income	3	480		480	693
Fund raising activities	3	383		383	176
Merchandising costs	3	0		0	0
Charitable activities	3	29,899	81,596	111,495	111,136
Governance cost	3	1,068		1,068	1,030
Total resources expended		31,830	81,596	113,426	113,035
Net incoming resources/(resouces expended) before transfers		10,220.00	-37,054	(26,834)	-13,841
Transfer between funds					
Net incoming resources/(resouces expended)		10,220	(37,054)	(26,834)	(13,841)
Balances brought forward 1 November 2015		739,471	41,058	780,529	794,370
Balances carried forward 31st October 2016		749,691	4,004	753,695	780,529

Registered Charity No 800655 Company Limited by Guarantee Reg No 02313579 Company Address: Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes, BN7 2FG

#### RAILWAY LAND WILDLIFE TRUST (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) BALANCE SHEET as at 31st October 2016 2015 2016 £ £ £ £ Note Fixed Assets: 6 686,516 701,328 **Current Assets** 4.445 17,155 Debtors 7 66,832 Cash at bank 66,327 83,987 70,772 **Total Assets** Creditors: amounts falling 4,786 due within one year 8 3,593 Net current assets 67.179 79,201 780,529 **Net Assets** 753,695 Represented by: **Restricted Fund** 9 4,004 41,058 9 749,691 739,471 Unrestricted Fund 780,529 753,695 Accumulated Fund at Year end

For the financial year ended 31 October 2016, the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Chairperson of Trustees Patricia Rigg. Trustee, Company Secretary

#### Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2016

#### 1 Accounting policies

### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005 and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

#### (b) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named as named on the trustees report. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

#### (c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### (d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

#### (e) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Premises overheads have been allocated on a floor area basis and other overheads have been allocated on the basis of the head count.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2016

## (f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Freehold land Pavilion building Fixtures, fittings and equipment none over the length of the lease 5 year straight line

2	Incoming resources	Unrestricted R		TOTAL	TOTAL FUNDS 2015
		Funds £	Funds £	2016 £	£
Volunta	ary income				0.005
Donat		14,090		14,090	2,695
Gift ai	d	632		632	507
Legac		10,467		10,467	
	ership fees	2,700		2,700	1,613
Other				-	95
Outer		27,889		27,889	4,910
Activiti	es for generating funds				4.070
	aising events	2,421		2,421	1,872
	ng hire			-	
	events			-	-
		2,421		2,421	1,872
Incom	e from investments				
Bank	interest received	5		5	4
		5		5	4
Incom	ing resources from charitable activities				
Rent/	hire of Linklater Pavilion				
- Hire		9,261	6,435	15,696	16,698
- Othe	er				
Grant			38,107	38,107	73,535
		9,261	44,542	53,803	90,233
Other	income resources				
	ry income	427		427	-
	ricity feed in tariff	2,047		2,047	2,175
		2,474	-	2,474	2,175
Total	incoming resources	42,050	44,542	86,592	99,194

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2016

Costs of Advertis Event o Website Newsle	osts e	255			
Advertis Event co Website	sing osts e	255			005
Event co Website	osts e	255			385
Website	9			255	16
		-		-	131
TACANOIC		225		225	161
		480		480	693
Fundrais	sing activities			450	16
	ising events	158		158	
Newsle		225		225	160
		383		383	176
	ndising costs				-
Advertis	sing			-	
Charitat	ole activities		1.1.1.2.1		0.040
	n running expenses	1,880	1,307	3,187	3,212
Pavilion	n repairs, maintenance and cleaning	2,765	1,921	4,686	6,424
	reserve				173
	projects		6,590	6,590	600
	n displays	217		217	
	y land live project		29,220	29,220	27,324
Event		254		254	16
Staff co		4,803	5,925	10,728	5,250
	sional and consultancy fees	1,880	8,457	10,337	13,265
	t manager fees		26,671	26,671	31,541
Printing	g, stationery, telephone & internet	1,985	755	2,740	2,650
Websi			750	750	130
Depred		14,812		14,812	19,120
Newsle		225		225	160
	ion to Madagascar project	1,022		1,022	1,022
Bad de				10 T	- 175
Other		56		56	424
Other		29,899	81,596	111,495	111,136
Govern	nance costs				
Bank o	charges				
	sional fees			-	340
Insura		348		348	
Indepe	endent examination fee	720		720	690
		1,068		1,068	1,030
	esources expended	31,830	81,596	113,426	113,035

#### 4 Trustees' remuneration

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

### 5 Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2016

#### 6 Fixed assets

	Freehold Land	Pavilion Building	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 November 2015 Additions	3,530	753,301	32,825	789,656 0
At 31 October 2016	3,530	753,301	32,825	789,656
Depreciation				
At 1 November 2015	0	62,511	25,817	88,328
Charge for year	0	12,555	2,257	14,812
At 31 October 2016	0	75,066	28,074	103,140
Net Book Value				in the second
At 31 October 2016	3,530	678,235	4,751	686,516
At 31 October 2015	3,530	690,790	7,008	701,328

There is a legal charge dated the 13 November 2012 in favour of Viridor Credits in respect of the building known as "The Linklater Pavilion". This was a condition of the funding provided by Viridor Credits to ensure compliance with the Land Communities Fund (LCF) Regulations and is designed to ensure the "The Linklater Pavilion" remains incompliance in terms of the management of LCF funded Assets only

#### 7 Debtors

) []

				2016	2015
				£	£
	Trade debtors			2,300	965
	Other debtors			978	14,809
	Prepayments			1,167	1,381
			-	4,445	17,155
8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one	year			
				2016	2015
				£	£
	Other taxes and social security costs			200	133
	Other creditors Pavilion construction c	osts		900	900
	Other			410	1,629
	Accruals			2,083	2,124
				3,593	4,786
9	Analysis of net assets by fund				
				TOTAL	TOTAL
	Ur	restricted R	estricted	FUNDS	FUNDS
		Funds	Funds	2016	2015
		£	£	£	£
	Fixed assets	686,516		686,516	701,328
	Current assets	66,768	4,004	70,772	83,987
	Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	(3,593)	0.00	(3,593)	(4,786)
		749,691	4,004	753,695	780,529

# Signs of Spring!

Over 60 children signed in for the 'Signs of Spring' activities put on by the RLWT at 10am on Wednesday 5th April. This was the first 'holiday activities session' we have offered and frankly we wondered what the take up would be like.

We needn't have worried! .....as the doors opened our visitors poured in, and made straight for the tables laden with masks for painting, clay for modelling birds (and the odd Easter rabbit), bean and sun

flower seeds to be planted



in home made paper pots, lard and seeds to make into bird feeders, and an Easter card workshop. Two bird walks and three pond dipping excursions were also on offer.

Mums, dads, grandparents and carers joined in, and two and half hours later everyone streamed away, carrying their trophies. Such a success, we feel ready to make this a regular event in each termly holiday. The session was organised by Mary Benjamin, a stalwart volunteer of Sunday afternoon openings, Helen Meade,

and supported by an army of volunteers, both old hands . Pat Rigg





From the Top : the Easter Card workshop with Jan Pepler: left Thyone Outram, Community Ranger and me making clay birds: below from left, Linda Wintle, mixing lard and seeds for bird feeders: Mary Benjamin and the pond dippers: and Jan Osborne with mask makers.

© Helen White & Mary Benjamin

# Update on our work with schools & learning disabled adults.

The Spring has seen two excellent areas of work with schools move forward. Firstly, **project 468** has been launched with the Lewes primary schools, 6 of whom have signed up. This is a very exciting development both for the RLWT and the schools involved. The project is the brainchild of John Parry and will see school pupils visiting the Railway Land and Linklater Pavilion in years 4, 6 and 8 – twice while they are at primary school, and again when they progress to secondary, should they go to Priory. The year 4 visits will be in spring, year 6 in summer and year 8 in autumn. Not only will the children have the opportunity to progress their learning and their relationship with the reserve through the repeat visits, they will also be able to reflect on work they undertook in previous years, which will be held in our online datastore.

Secondly, we have launched our package of schools materials for schools in the wider area. The package was developed by **Steve Savage**, the biologist who worked on Railway Land Live! and many of our earlier educational visits. Steve's great knowledge of the site and passion for providing broad, flexible learning opportunities really shine through. The package is designed so that schools can mix and match different modules and tailor visits very much to their own objectives, and elements such as ID sheets that have been designed specifically for the flora and fauna found here provide a very high quality of learning materials.

At the end of March our most recent round of work with the **Nature Rangers** group of learning disabled adults came to an end. Since losing our funding from East Sussex County Council, this work has been funded from the Trust's reserves and from generous donations from members and supporters. We had hoped to secure further funding from elsewhere to carry this work on and are still waiting to hear from several funding bodies about bids we have submitted. It was obviously very sad for us to see this particular piece of work come to an end. However, we have arrangements in place to continue our work with learning disabled adults in the Autumn and, in partnership with Culture Shift, a Community Interest Company, will be providing short environmentally inspired art courses for learning disabled adults and their carers. Helen Meade

# **Our Membership Scheme**

We are relaunching our membership scheme! Having reviewed its structure we decided that we needed to make our offer to existing members a bit clearer and to try to attract new members to the Trust. So now members will be entitled to:

- A welcome pack containing various Railway Land goodies.
- Members only events –walks, talks and social activities, 2 for adults and 2 for families each year.
- Newsletters and updates about forthcoming events.

We have decided upon a range of membership categories, namely individual, household, junior and unwaged, with reduced rates for payment by standing order as this greatly helps with admin at this end.

## So it is time to renew membership!

A hard copy of the membership form is attached or you can sign up online at www.railwaylandproject. org/membership

For those members who already pay by standing order, the rate will remain the same. Helen Meade 14

## Membership Renewal / Application

Forename:.....Surname.....

Address:

Town:..... Post Code:....

email:....

I wish to become a member / renew my membership of the Railway Land Wildlife Trust

## Category of membership (please tick) Adult..... Youth.... Household.... Unwaged....

Category	Cost per year – cash / cheque	Cost per year –standing order
Adult	£25	£20
Youth (under 18)	£12	£10
Household – 2 or more people living at the same address	£35	£30
Unwaged	£20	£15

Donation towards RLWT funds £....

I would like to receive newsletters (please tick) by post.... email....

note: receiving newsletters by email frees up £1.20 of your subscription for other RLWT projects and services

I understand that the information I have provided above will be retained for membership records only; held securely and only processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998

# Gift Aid declaration – please tick ONE of the following Please treat

- the enclosed gift as a Gift Aid donation **OR**
- all gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations **OR**
- please do NOT claim Gift Aid on this donation

Signed:..... date:....

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or capital Gains Tax for the year (6 April one year to 5 April the next) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that RLWT will reclaim on your gift.

- Please notify RLWT in due course if you
- 1. Want to cancel this declaration
- 2. Change your name or home address or
- 3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains

**Tax claimed by the Charity** - the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give on or after 2008

If you pay Income Tax at the higher rate, you must include all your gift Aid donations on your Self assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you **Please return this form to:** 

## Membership RLWT, Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes, BN72FG

Tel: 01273-477101 - email: coordinator@railwaylandproject.org



## New Standing Order and Gift Aid Instruction

Please complete the mandate form below and send to your bank: please send a copy to: Helen Meade Membership RLWT, Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes BN7 2FG or email a copy to coordinator@railwaylandproject.org

#### To Name:

Bank

Please set up the following Standing Order and debit my /our account accordingly.

1.	Account details				
Account name:		Acco	ount number		
Addr	ess of branch of bank:	Sort code			
Sort Acco	Payee Details e of organisation you are paying: code: ount number: nent reference – Your name (plea	60 – 13 – 09 41513096		WILDLIFE TRUST	
3. How	About the payment often the payments are to be ma	de: Yearly	Amount d	etails :	
(Plea	e of first payment: ase allow at least15 working days ose one of the following two optio ntil further notice (payments will b	ns:			
	ate of final payment	, ,			
4.	Confirmation				
Cust	omer signature(s):		Da	ate:	
to contact the Railway Land Wildlife Trust & Programme Coordinator Helen Meade Email: <u>coordinator@railwaylandproject.org</u> (Helen also deals with bookings & membership) RLWT		r project.org	<u>w</u> and contact	ccess to past newsletters go to www.railwaylandproject.org click on 'About' / Newsletters Editor: Pat Rigg via : <u>info@railwaylandproject.c</u> otos ©RLWT unless attributed	
Linklater Pavilion Railway Lane, Lewes BN72FG Tel: 01273-477101 (answerphone only) to contact Lewes District Council Ranger Thyone Outram Tel: 01273-471600 Email: <u>Thyone.Outram@lewes.gov.uk</u>		il Ranger	Regis W printe	Newsletter published by egistered Charity No 800655 stered Company No: 02313579 www.railwaylandproject.org to access live webcams www.railwaylandlive.org ed by Elephant Print, Barcombe www.elephantprint.co.uk	